

Volunteer 'grandparents' help kids in school

29 Mar 1988



HELPING HAND

PROVO — Willa Davis first became a foster grandparent in 1982 and has been helping children since. Willa is a "grandma" at Geneva Elementary in Provo and helps kindergarten children with any problems they might have.

According to Grandma Davis, being a foster grandparent is a good way for her to forget her problems and to help a child overcome a struggle. "I love to see the children's faces light up when they realize that they can do it."

Foster Grandparents is a program sponsored by the Utah County Commission that provides older adults with a useful way to serve their community. According to Charles Dearing, executive director, individuals who enjoy children, are at least 60 years old, and meet low-income guidelines are eligible to be foster grandparents.

The foster grandparent works five days per week, four hours per day. Dearing said that currently grandparents are working with children in the State Hospital, the State Training School, Nebo, Alpine and Provo School Districts and several hospitals.

The grandparents receive many benefits from their service. They receive a stipend of \$2.20 per hour and

are given one meal each day. Grandparents are also given some paid holidays each year, along with sick and vacation leave.

Dearing said that the best benefit the grandparents receive is the satisfaction of knowing that they are needed. This knowledge, along with letters from his "grandchildren," helped one foster grandpa fight illness and a hospital stay, said Dearing.

Grandma Davis commented that many children need these special grandparents to watch over them. Currently Foster Grandparents is taking applications for grandparents willing to serve in the Orem, Lehi and Provo areas. Anyone interested may call the United Way Volunteer Center at 374-8108.

Other community volunteer opportunities include:

—American Red Cross needs volunteers to serve on a disaster action team that responds to personal and mass disasters.

—Provo City Library needs volunteers to help sort, shelve, and check out books.

—Association for Retarded Citizens needs volunteers to spend several hours each month helping a retarded citizen.

For information on these and other volunteer opportunities, call the United Way Volunteer Center at 374-8108.



Wilda Christensen, left, is a volunteer at Provo Public Library.



Murlene Mitchell is the new director of the volunteer program at Wasatch County Hospital. She was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming and lived there until 1979, when she moved to Utah. She presently lives in Midway and worked in Park City the last four years prior to coming to the volunteer program. The hospital will sponsor a bake sale this Friday, Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The proceeds will help buy toys for the pediatric ward at the hospital.



Murlene Mitchell, Director of Volunteers at the Wasatch County Hospital, presents a \$6,000 check for new x-ray equipment to Wayne Terry, Hospital Administrator. Most of the money is from a golf tournament sponsored by the volunteers last June, which they plan to make an annual fund-raiser.

8-17-88

McGruff House Program Revived in County



**New, familiar
McGruff house signs
will be scattered
around the Heber
Valley, beginning in
December, to
identify homes open
to children, who need
help or feel
threatened.**

UTAH COUNCIL FOR CRIME PREVENTION

The McGruff House program, sponsored by the Utah Council for Crime Prevention, is being re-established in the Heber Valley, under the direction of Bobbi Brown, secretary of the Heber City Police Department.

McGruff House is a locally operated program, which provides a positive, highly visible resource for child safety. People who participate help to "Take a Bite Out of Crime" by showing they are good neighbors.

Mrs. Brown said people, who would like their homes to be McGruff Houses, may apply after Dec. 1.

A McGruff House is a temporary haven for children who find themselves in emergency or frightening situations, such as being bullied,

followed or hurt while walking in a neighborhood. People who volunteer their homes as McGruff Houses agree to make emergency phone calls for children in trouble and watch out for neighborhood children as they go to and from school. A McGruff House is not a medical aid station, a restaurant, or a public restroom.

Children know they can ask for help and trust the people who live at a house displaying the familiar McGruff sign.

The McGruff House program has built-in safeguards against abuses, providing every possible precaution to insure the safety of children.

Adults, who volunteer their houses, agree to a law enforcement records check. McGruff House signs are numbered and released from the na-

tional inventory only on written approval from law enforcement. The national office maintains a registry of signs issued to local groups, who keep records of signs issued to approved applicants.

Volunteers will receive written guidelines. Training and information sessions will be held for volunteers, parents and students. Mrs. Brown will be visiting schools with a McGruff puppet, to the children to understand the program.

Boy Scouts will be collecting old McGruff Safe Home signs in order to update the program, or the signs may be left at the Heber City Police Department.

For more information, contact Bobbi Brown at 654-3040, or Billy Sellier at 654-1411.

Heber starts McGruff program

Friday, November 18, 1988 THE HERALD, Provo, Utah. — Page 13

By SONNI SCHWINN
Heber City Correspondent
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Deer Hunters Stop 30-Acre Wildfire

During the general deer hunt in the Currant Creek area on the Uinta National Forest, many deer hunters, most of whom are shown in the picture, took it upon themselves to stop a 30-acre wildfire, which started from an unattended campfire. The hunters, equipped with only shovels from their own camps, were able to contain the fast-spreading fire, which burned in sagebrush before slowing down when it spread into nearby aspen stands. Upon their arrival, Forest Service and state firefighting crews relieved the weary firefighters. The Forest Service and state agencies greatly appreciate the efforts that these volunteer firefighters made in stopping the fire. 11-23-88 *Volunteerism*

McGruff Volunteers Sought. Trucks Added To Program

12-7-88
Applications are now available at the Heber City Police Station for people who are interested in making their homes available as McGruff House, where children can stop for help if they feel threatened. In addition, Mt. Fuel Supply's trucks are now McGruff Trucks, an extension of the same program.

The McGruff Truck driver functions in the same way as citizens in McGruff Houses and are identified with the McGruff logo, the same as the houses. They do not act as policemen or paramedics, or solve the children's problems, but will call for whatever help is needed. While the program primarily is for chil-

dren, a McGruff Truck driver would extend the same service to any citizen.

McGruff Trucks should be used only in times of distress, such as when a child is frightened, someone is hurt, or if someone is trying to molest or abduct a child.

If a child needs help, he or she is to wave both arms in the air, jump up and down and yell. Children should never run into the street to get help. If the McGruff Truck is on the other side of the street, children are to wait where they are, and the driver will come to them. After calling for help, the driver will stay with the children until help arrives.

Children are receiving instructions in schools on how to recognize and use the McGruff program. Parents are advised to:

- Walk or ride their children's routes to and from school with them, pointing out McGruff House locations as well as places the children should avoid, such as deserted alleys, public restrooms or recessed doorways.
- Be sure their children know their full names, addresses, and phone numbers, how to use the telephone, and that they always have 25 cents to use a public phone.
- Instruct their children to use

the buddy system.

- Instruct their children never to go anywhere with another adult, even one who says the parent has sent him, and to run to the nearest McGruff House if they are being followed.
- That no adults have authority over them simply because they're bigger.
- That there are many adults children can trust and ask for help, such as teachers, family, and police.
- That children should report anything that makes them feel strange, "funny" or uncomfortable.



Amy White and Pat Poulin

Amy Helps Homeless Shelter

21 Dec 1988 Wave
Just in time for the holidays, the new Transitional Shelter for homeless in Utah, located in Salt Lake City, has opened its doors. Residents of Heber Valley helped play a part in this important step toward helping the homeless in Utah. Amy White, 10-years-old, was touched by the situation that existed before this shelter was built. She asked her father how she could help.

After several contacts, he found from Ella Westley, Administrative Assistant for Shelter The Homeless Project that she could "buy a brick" and have it dedicated for \$100. That seemed like a lot for a 10-year-old girl to earn, so she asked others to help, including family and friends

in Heber City.

The brick is to be dedicated "To The Memory of Rowena White, Mother, Wife, Daughter, Friend," who was killed in a car accident when Amy was only three.

Amy earned and saved over sixty dollars! With the help of others, the total donation came to \$126. Mr. Patrick Poulin met Amy at the shelter, before it was completed, to receive the donation. (Pictured above.) Those interested, may visit the shelter and see Amy's brick at 210 Rio Grande Street (200 South 400 West), Salt Lake City. Amy wants to say thanks to all of the friends, who helped her raise the money on behalf of the homeless who now have shelter.

Volunteers plant trees in canyon

5-10-89
By MYRNA TRAUNTVEIN
Nephi Correspondent

NEPHI — Approximately 80 volunteers worked to plant more than 2,000 trees recently in an effort to reforest several sections of Salt Creek Canyon.

Ray Abriel, U.S. Forest Assistant Ranger, said the volunteers worked in separate groups over a three-day period to plant the Douglas fir.

Six BYU students and 27 Payson Middle School students planted 1,100 trees in Upper Pole Canyon on one day. The next day a group of 15 Cub Scouts under the direction of Linda Smith, Nephi, planted 150 trees at Red Creek Flat, said Abriel.

Then, 30 Juab Middle School students began planting trees at Cottonwood Campground but the effort had to be canceled after the students had planted only 300 trees because of a fire in the forest area near Springville, Abriel said.

All the crew overseeing the planting was called to fight the fire so the students had to abandon the planting effort.

A group of 17 Boy Scouts and three adults from Nephi 5th LDS Ward under the direction of Shelly Elder planted 800 trees between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on a Saturday.

"Some of the boys had to leave at noon but the others wanted to stay and finish the job," said Abriel. "They worked long and hard. Most of the trees were planted at Cottonwood Campground."



Herald Photo/Myrna Trauntvein

Volunteers help U.S. Forest service personnel plant trees in Salt Canyon.

Cottonwood Campground has been a site under controversy since the Forest Service closed it last summer. The cottonwoods there are considered unsafe as many of them are dead or dying. Even when the old wood is trimmed away new cottonwoods are not coming up.

"Cottonwoods have a life span of 80 to 100 years," said Abriel. Once the last of the cottonwoods die the campground would be left in a treeless plain. Abriel, who worked

at Beaver as a timber forester before coming to the Nephi area, wants to prevent that by working now to establish a conifer forest in the area.

He said careful plans had been made to assure the survival of the trees. First workers "scalp out" a spot 18 inches by 18 inches to remove all the grass and weed competition for moisture. The tree roots are protected so they are exposed to air for less than 15 seconds,

and a preparation is placed on the roots to help them retain water.

"Seeds are planted from this elevation and geologic zone in Boise, Idaho. Then the two-year-old seedlings are shipped back and planted," explained Abriel. The trees will adapt to the 3,000-foot to 6,500-foot level but will not do well at other elevations.

Foresters hope for a good rain in the next few weeks.

Volunteers honored at annual fest

By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN
Herald Staff Writer

Foster grandparents who serve in the three school districts, the hospitals and youth correction areas were honored Wednesday at the 24th annual recognition banquet at the Spanish Fork Senior Citizens Center.

Nebo School District hosted the event, which honored 88 Foster Grandparents who have served during the past year. Dr. Rick Crawford of the State ACTION office was master of ceremonies.

Crawford presented a special 20-year plaque to Charles J. Dearing, director of the Utah County program. Two of the Foster Grandparent groups paid tribute to Dearing in the form of special poems honoring his service and dedication.

Ten-year awards went to Juliana S. Berkhimer and Vivian Smith, and special recognition was given Allie Cardon, Erma Christiansen, and Lillian Sorensen, all of whom have served 16 years, and Isabell Aston, who has served 22 years.

Five-year awards went to Clair Knight, Ethel Lucas, Dorothy Pearson, Eleanor Trower and Opal Webb. Three-year award certificates went to Le-Ora Knuteson, Elna B. Laws, Thelma Lawson, Beverly S. Lunt, ElDean McClain and Helen Wilson.

Dearing also recognized Cinderella Stewart, who is still active as a Foster Grandparent at the age of 93. Seventeen other Foster Grandparents are 80 years of age or older.

An inspirational message was given by Wes Bitters, professor at Utah Valley Community College, and Nanelle Andersen, Spanish Fork high school student, entertained the group with a musical program.

Nine Foster Grandparents have served at the Utah State Hospital, 11 in the Provo School District, 22 at the Utah State Training School, one at Orem Community Hospital; 30 in Nebo School District; seven in Alpine School District, five at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center, two at the Utah County Youth Detention Center, and one at Youth Corrections.

Volunteerism alive, well in U.S. forests

By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN
Herald Staff Writer

Volunteerism is big in the Intermountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service.

Gene Watson, regional human resources specialist, reports that more than 18,000 people donated a total of 525 person years of work in the national forests of the Intermountain Region (Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming and small portions of California and Colorado) in fiscal year 1988.

These 18,000 individuals worked in various human resource programs, such as Volunteers, Touch America Project (TAP), Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and Host programs.

Watson said volunteers range from youths to individuals in their 70s and 80s, and included 800 ethnic minority individuals.

One volunteer retired from the Forest Service regional office in Ogden in 1972, and since that time has donated 1,800 hours of volunteer work each year.

Volunteers numbered 15,659, and gave an estimated \$3.4 million dollars of volunteer work. TAP (youth 14 to 17) involved 386 people and they gave \$333,000 worth of volunteer work. The private sector donates toward the cost of TAP projects.

Host projects are sponsored by other organizations, with the Forest Service providing the work projects and supervisors. This program involved 2,100 people giving \$1.4 million in volunteer service.

Youth Conservation Corps (ages 15-18) involved 163 persons and they gave \$488,500 in volunteer service.

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) involved 398 citizens age 55 or older and economically disadvantaged, and they gave \$2.4 million in service.

Jr. Volunteer Leader Honored at Wasatch County Hospital

7 June 1989

Suzi Morton, vice president, and Jr. Volunteer leader, was honored by officers, Director of Volunteers Murlene Mitchell; president, Norita Winterton; treasurer Mitzie McPhie; hospitality officer, Charlette Berg, not attending that day was secretary Ruby Nicol.

Suzi has given the program many uncounted hours of volunteer service. She has done an outstanding job and will be missed. Suzi has been a volunteer for four years.

The program has changed and the Jr. Volunteer will be under the direction of the current officers. They do have a few openings for Junior and Senior volunteers.

Thanks

14 June 1989

The Heber Valley Chapter of the American Cancer Society would like to thank the following people and businesses for their contributions and support for our 1989 Golf Tournament:

Carolyn's Yogurt (Tri-Valley Distributing), Center Creek Pottery, Palace Drug, The Flower Boutique, Day's Market, The Homestead, Zions First National Bank, Pizza Hut, King Kong Video, Heber Valley IGA, Coast to Coast, Main Street Shoes, The

Avon Theatre, K&K Tire, House of Fine Arts, Kis Photo, High Country Crafts, Timberline, Ace Hardware, and Wave Publishing.

Shanna and Doyle Van Wagoner, Kay Phillips, Jean Binggeli, Mark Austin, and Barbara Kramer.

We are very grateful to our community in its commitment to the fight against cancer.

Thank you!

Hospital volunteer eases the fears of young patients



HELPING HAND

Hospital work can be touchy and involve myriad emotions, so many hospitals rely on volunteers to help patients who might have a hard time dealing with their situation.

Sheryl Braegger is a volunteer who fits that mold. A full-time elementary school teacher, Braegger spends much of her spare time helping out at Cottonwood Hospital Medical Center. Because she likes children so much, and because she likes parties, Braegger takes part in operation "Cottonbear" — the hospital's pre-admission parties for children scheduled to have surgery. The program uses teddy bears as companions to the children and helps them know what to expect during surgery.

Barbara Harris, director of volunteers at Cottonwood Hospital, said Braegger is a valuable asset to the hospital's volunteer effort.

Do light office work at refugee center.

Train to help at Rape Crisis Center. Aug. 4-6.

Do yard work for woman with cerebral palsy. Once a week this summer.

Help paint homes for elderly and handicapped people.

Compile files of health literature in ethnic languages. Training.

Be a campground host.

Compile data from hospitals, care centers, nursing homes, home health care and clinic services. Four to eight hours a week.

Work with children and adolescents affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

Help Big Brothers/Big Sisters with "hoop it up" fund-raiser Aug. 10-12.

Provide a kitchen timer to help with blood work.

Donate bathing suits to YWCA.

Give hand tools to non-profit organization.

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"The idea to others is a reflection of its best," he said. "President Bush stood the line in the face of that idiosyncrasy."

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President praised for voluntarism plan

23 June 1989

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Bush's \$100 million proposal to encourage voluntarism in America drew praise from across the political line as a couple of prominent Democrats applauded his effort to solve social ills.

Speaking Thursday to civic leaders in New York City, Bush officially outlined his four-year plan that urges all Americans to help their communities fight homelessness, hunger, drug abuse and other problems.

Led by retiring New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, Bush's program will encourage citizens, businesses and institutions to work harder against social troubles.

New York Mayor Edward Koch, who attended Bush's luncheon speech, said of the plan, "It's not a cop-out. It's absolutely positive. At this point it's amorphous. But we need to see the flesh on the bones — and that will be Tom Kean's job — because clearly \$25 million is not going to create a volunteer corps across this country."

To endow his program, Youth Engaged in Service to America, the president is asking Congress for \$25 million annually for four years each and a foundation would seek another \$25 million a year in matching private funds.

"We call this catalyst the 'points of light' initiative," Bush said, reviving the campaign phrase he used to describe volunteers.

Bush said, "I ask all Americans to make service central to your life and work."

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who has been involved in the national service debate, praised Bush's leadership on the issue.

"The idea of service to others is a reflection of America at its best," he said. "President Kennedy understood the fundamental importance of that idea, and so does President Bush."

The foundation will be overseen more directly by Kean, who is leaving office this year, and a national board of directors. The foundation would seek to give training and technical assistance to programs based on successful volunteer models nationwide.

Goals include doubling by 1992 the number of young people involved in such efforts and tripling the number of institutions committed to such work.

Bush told the civic leaders, "There is no problem in America that is not being solved somewhere. But the job is far from complete. Too many Americans still endure a living nightmare of want and isolation."

Bush frequently has emphasized his own volunteer service, ranging from sponsorship of a Little League baseball team to involvement with the United Negro College Fund to donations of old clothes to charities.

Before attending the lunch, the president and his wife, Barbara, went to New York's Covenant House, a shelter for runaway and abandoned children. They spoke for 30 minutes with about a dozen youths about drugs and violence.

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